

**Workforce Solutions – Deep East Texas
Board Meeting Minutes
415 S. First Street, Suite 110B
Lufkin, TX 75901
April 13, 2021**

I. CHAIR WAYNE HAGLUND CALLED THE BOARD MEETING TO ORDER AT 2:32 P.M.

MR. HAGLUND ANNOUNCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDANCE FROM THE TEXAS GOVERNOR AND ATTORNEY GENERAL DATED MARCH 16, 2020, REGARDING SUSPENSION OF OPEN MEETING LAWS, THE BOARD IS PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ITS MEETING VIA VIRTUAL MEETING WEB LINK. HE ALSO SAID THE MEETING IS BEING RECORDED AND THE OPEN SESSION PORTION OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST.

AFTER THE ROLL CALL, MR. HAGLUND CONFIRMED THAT A QUORUM WAS PRESENT:

Members Present: Joe Clyde Adams, Lisa Balty, TJ Colwell, Tim Ditoro, Robert Fitzpatrick, Wayne Haglund, Ethan Herr, Staci Hodges, Eddie Hopkins, Anita Humphreys, Malcolm Ifoezeh, Kotosha Jeffery, Laurie King, Gene Lee, Quincy Martindale, Marisa Phillips, Randall Roberts, Rich Scott, John Allen Slocomb, John White

Members Absent: Rebekah Burkhalter, Tyane Dietz, Gregg Durham, James Gentry, Phyllis Grandgeorge, Karen Hatton, Garvey Jackson, Kelli Marshall, Ellen Mills, Jessica Rogers

Board Staff Present: Mark Durand, Karen Stubblefield, Misty Woodard, Debb Homman

Visitors: Allison Mann, Tami Poulan, Billy Reddick, Paul Dunn, Sheila Collins, Derek Billingsley

CHAIR WAYNE HAGLUND REMINDED THE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION.

Chair Wayne Haglund asked that all members sign a conflict of interest declaration regardless of whether they have a conflict and return the form to board staff.

WELCOME OF GUESTS:

Mark Durand welcomed Jasper County business owner Derek Billingsley. He introduced Tiereny White, a new board staff member who has been named the Workforce Career and Education Outreach Specialist.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Discussion/Action: Approval of Minutes

A. February 9, 2021

B. February 24, 2021

C. March 26, 2021

Motion: Quincy Martindale made the motion to approve the minutes of the three meetings (February 9, 2021, February 24, 2021, and March 26, 2021) as presented.
Second: John White
In Favor: All
Oppose: None
Abstain: None
Motion: Passes

IV. Information Items

A. Local Employer of Excellence Presentation

Mr. Derek Billingsley, owner of MVPs Dine, Drink Cheer in Jasper, spoke about the partnership between his business and Workforce Solutions.

V. Board Members Comments on Activity in their Respective Areas

None

VI. Executive Director's Report

A. Contracts/Agreements

B. Performance

C. Contacts and Coordination Efforts

D. Rules and Legislation Update

E. Funding

F. Other Activity and Administrative Matters not requiring action by the Board

In addition to his written report, Mr. Durand reported that an Interlocal Agreement with Junior Achievement of Angelina County has been executed to assist with the JA Inspire Career Event. The Board agreed to pay JA \$8,700 to utilize job fair platform to provide middle and high school students information related to Career Industries exploration. WCI grant funds were utilized to pay for services. An MOU/Infrastructure Agreement with AARP Foundation was executed to provide the Senior Community Service Employment Program in the Angelina, Nacogdoches and Shelby counties. AARP will reimburse the Board \$11,496.57 annually for use of office space. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act requires the Workforce and AARP to jointly develop an MOU/Infrastructure agreement. Mr. Durand summarized performance measures: as of February 2021, child care enrollment was 86% with 1,771 children enrolled in care with a goal of 2,052; Texas Rising Star providers fell by two (2) due to an owner retirement and an unexpected death of an owner; three (3) workforce performance measures were missed (Dislocated Worker Credential Rate, Dislocated Worker Employed Q2 and Adult Employed Q4) and actions plans are in place. There are currently more than 130 bills that have been filed in the Texas Legislature that may impact workforce development. Ed Serna, TWC Executive Director, informed the Texas Association of Workforce Boards that there are no major appropriations cuts that affect the various programs that are funded by TWC. The 1720 Child Care Formula Grant was amended by \$1.4 million to cover the Enhanced Reimbursement Rates for Child Care Providers. Mr. Durand reported on the Board Staff Training/Meetings during the period January-March 2021.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Operations Committee Reports

1. Committee Activity

2. Discussion/Possible Action

a. Action Item 21-07 Training Provider Policy

Motion: The Operations Committee recommended approval of the policy

Second: Mr. Haglund stated no second was needed on the motion from the committee

In Favor: All
Oppose: None
Abstain: None
Motion: Passes

b. Action Item 21-08 WIOA Policy

Motion: The Operations Committee recommended approval of the policy
Second: Mr. Haglund stated no second was needed on the motion from the committee
In Favor: All
Oppose: None
Abstain: None
Motion: Passes

c. Action Item 21-09 Child Care Policy

Motion: The Operations Committee recommended approval of the policy
Second: Mr. Haglund stated no second was needed on the motion from the committee
In Favor: All
Oppose: None
Abstain: None
Motion: Passes

B. Business Services Committee Reports

1. Committee Activity

2. Discussion/Possible Action

a. Action Item 21-10 Registered Apprenticeships for Information Technology

Motion: The Business Services Committee recommended approval of the policy
Second: Mr. Haglund stated no second was needed on the motion from the committee
In Favor: All
Oppose: None
Abstain: Tim Ditoro, Randy Roberts, Wayne Haglund
Motion: Passes

Tim Ditoro, Randy Roberts, and Wayne Haglund declared a conflict.

C. Executive/Finance Committee

1. Committee Activity

Mr. Durand noted the Annual Report is in progress and will be shared with Board by next meeting.

2. Discussion/Possible Action

a. Action Item 21-11 TWC Monitoring Report 20.17.001 (Final Reports)

Mark Durand explained TWC Regulatory Integrity Division has issued an Audit Resolution Report stating the corrective actions taken adequately resolved the finding and the TWC Monitoring Report #20.17.0001 is closed. The contractor has implemented an oversight committee to continue internal monitoring, and the Board has changed its structure—Sarah Milligan is reviewing reports and correcting errors.

Motion: The Executive/Finance Committee recommended approval of the policy
Second: Mr. Haglund stated no second was needed on the motion from the committee
In Favor: All

Oppose: None
Abstain: None
Motion: Passes

3. Open Session Action, if any, as a result of Closed Session

None

4. Discussion and Acceptance of Financial Reports

a. Financial Reports January and February 2021

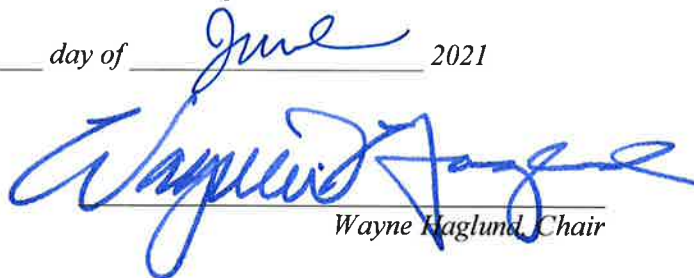
- 1. Statement of Financial Position**
- 2. Budget vs. Actual**
- 3. Grant Report**

Misty Woodard provided financial updates for the months of January and February 2021. She referenced the variance narrative and reviewed the contracts outstanding. The audit with Alexander, Lankford & Hiers was under way. On a motion by Gene Lee, seconded by Randy Roberts, the Board accepted the financial reports as presented.

VIII. Adjourn

Chair Wayne Haglund adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Duly passed and approved on this 22 day of June 2021


Wayne Haglund, Chair

Attest


Karen Stubblefield, Operations Manager